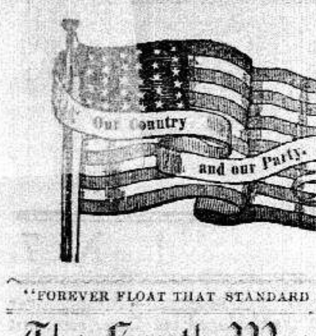

"FOREVER FLOAT THAT STANDARD SHEET."

The South-Western.

BY L. DILLARD & Co.

Office...Corner of Texas and Edwards streets, OPPOSITE HITCHCOCK'S LIVERY STABLE.

SHREVEPORT:

WEDNESDAY,......SEPTEMBER 29, 1858.

We are unable to announce any improvement in navigation. Last week there was a rise of eight feet at Rowland, which amounted to three feet at the head of the raft, about two inches at this place, and will evaporate before it can reach the bars in the vicinity of Campté. The navigation below the falls is also difficult, there being scant 30 inches water from Alexandria to the mouth. The steamer Era No. 1 arrived yesterday from the falls, and reports that the Bloomer, had discharged her cargo at Grand Ecore and put back; the Wabash Valley is slowly working her way up on one wheel. The Marion, hence for Alexandria, has laid up at Coushatta. The Effort, from New Orleans direct, will arrive here this morning. The Falls City left New Orleans on the 23d for this port direct, with a large freight.

We are sadly in need of a heavy rain. The cisterns throughout town are down to the very dregs, vegetation of every description is burning up, while the dust is suffocating. "Rain," is the universal cry.

Trains of cotton wagons begin to pour in rapidly from the country, and from all accounts the crop is some weeks in advance of the two preceding seasons.

The mayor has of late been overhauling all free persons of color, and ordered those found in town in contravention of law to leave the State.

We are indebted to Mr. A. D. Donovan, cotton factor, New Orleans, for his attentions. The epidemic could neither drive him from his post nor make him forgetful of old friends.

ELECTION.—The election for associate justice of the supreme court, in place of judge Spofford, will take place on Monday next.

MINDEN FEMALE COLLEGE.—Parents should bear in mind that the eleventh session of this truly estimable institution will commence on Monday next. It is important that the pupils be in attendance as soon as possible.

RARE CHANCE.—The spacious building so favorably known as the "Tremont House," is offered for rent, with or without the furniture, presenting a rare opportunity to any one desirous of opening a first class boarding house or hotel. It already enjoys a high reputation as a public house.

$100 REWARD!—The attention of our country readers is solicited to the advertisement headed $100 reward.

The National Observatory announces that no less than three comets are now to be seen in the heavens. For the past ten days our citizens have been able to view one of these comets (Donati's) every evening immediately after sunset, and again in the morning. It is best seen about 4 o'clock, A. M. During next week it will be of the most striking brightness, possibly the largest comet of the century, and at that time will be seen near Arcturus, perhaps even surpassing that brilliant star in splendor.

JOHN RAY.—The Claiborne Democrat pays the following compliment to the hon. John Ray, which is to be the more appreciated as it comes from one who opposes his election to the supreme bench:

"John Ray is a native of Missouri, and was educated in Kentucky. He came to Monroe quite young, an entire stranger, and destitute of means, He soon, however, as all young men can who will, found employment, and by close labor and study, not only gained the esteem of his employer, but in the course of two or three years was admitted to the bar, at which he has been practicing very closely and successfully for twenty years. We have never seen any lawyer as well versed in the practice of his profession, or as safe in his pleadings, as Mr. Ray. He is, too, in addition to a thorough acquaintance with general principles, completely imbued with a knowledge of the codes and the decisions of our supreme court. He has never been on the bench, but his fitness for the station is recognized by every one at all acquainted with his qualifications."

The accounts from New Orleans continue gloomy, but it is apparent that the epidemic has reached its culmination, and we may anticipate a marked decrease in the mortality.—There were 642 interments during the week ending at 6, A. M., 19th inst, being an increase of four over those of the previous week. Of the deaths, 220 were American born. For the 30 hours ending at 12, M., 20th inst., there were 107 deaths from yellow fever. The Picayune, in its weekly review, says:

It is spreading more widely in the fourth district, and the infant of sixteen months, as well as the veteran of eighty years, are equally victims to its ravages. We hear of people who have lived here for ten to sixteen and eighteen consecutive years, and who have passed thro' all previous epidemics in safety, being attacked with it now. The children of the soil do not appear to escape its grasp, and there is danger of a relapse even after a convalescence of twelve days or more.

The reports of interments in the St. Louis, Girod, Cypress Grove and Odd Fellows' Rest cemeteries, do not verify the Picayune's statement as to an unusual mortality among the old citizens or their offspring.

The complete returns of the election recently held in Texas have not been officially promulgated, but it is generally conceded that Buckley, the democratic nominee for associate justice, was defeated by a few hundred votes. In our last, speaking of this remarkable contest, we inadvertently made the Galveston News a democratic sheet.

The steamers B. L. Hodge and Alice Vivian have contracted to carry all cotton shipped from Vicksburg to N. Orleans at 75 cents per bale. The regular packets refused to take a bale for less than one dollar.

The papers of the lower parishes are filled with accounts of sickness, especially among the planters in the Mississippi swamps.

Last winter president Buchanan dispatched a message to congress urging the prompt admission of Kansas into the Union, (with the principle of the Pugh amendment incorporated,) as the speediest and most equitable method of adjusting the question which had so long distracted the country. The southern delegation almost unanimously adopted and supported the views of the executive, being satisfied that the ratification of the pro-slavery constitution framed by the Lecompton convention, was all that the people of the south asked for or expected. It was known that the approval of the constitution would be of no intrinsic value to the southern States, but in its acceptance or rejection by congress was involved the private rights of the people of the south and incidentally the question whether any new State recognising the institution of slavery should be admitted into the confederacy. It is superfluous to inform our readers, that while the southern delegation, taking this view of the question, with great unanimity ardently supported the executive, a large number of democrats and malcontents under the lead of Douglas, coalesced with the black republicans, and defeated both the Kansas bill and the Pugh amendment—killed them. Subsequently, by the exertion of every conceivable means and the influence of the executive, the Kansas bill, with the English proviso, passed congress and became the law of the land. Under that law, a few weeks ago the people of Kansas rejected the pro-slavery constitution of Lecompton, and thus refused to become a State. According to the English proviso, Kansas cannot now be admitted into the Union until her population reaches the number requisite to entitle a State to a member of congress, and that must be several years hence; but the black republicans, Douglas and other opponents of the Lecompton constitution, declare that the territory should be erected into a State at any time its citizens may present a constitution (anti-slavery) fairly adopted. So at this time stands the Kansas question. But the Washington Union, in its capacity of "official organ" to the president, has drawn aside the curtain that has heretofore surrounded the secrets of the cabinet, to disclose a new scene in the Kansas drama. The Union, in its official character reproaches the abolitionists for not adopting *its* suggestion as "the speediest means of excluding slavery"—is reminding the people of the north that if the Lecompton constitution with the Pugh amendment had been accepted by congress at its last session, Kansas would ere this time have ridden herself of "the curse" of slavery, despite the provision forbidding any amendment of the constitution in this respect prior to 1864. The Union, in an article reproaching the opposition fanatics of the north for not embracing this administration scheme for "speedily" running slavery out of Kansas, notwithstanding her pro-slavery constitution, says:

"To have come into the Union under the Lecompton constitution, would have been to invest herself immediately with the power to abolish slavery—a power *which she does not now possess, and which congress cannot exercise for her.*

"It is *not a fact* that the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution would have resulted in favor of slavery there. Not only was it impossible that this was the operation of the bill, but it was as *impossible that this could be the intention of its authors.*

"The know nothing council admit that the majority of the people of Kansas were opposed to slavery. They know that, theoretically, under the Dred Scott decision, slavery existed in the territory, and *that admission into the Union* under the Lecompton constitution *was the quickest process by which they could prohibit* that relation in Kansas. That being admitted, the people had *sovereign power at once to change* their constitution, and thus give effect to their opinions on the subject of slavery. In other words, the Lecompton constitution was presented to congress early last winter. Had the State been admitted, long ere this, she could have framed a *new constitution,* and *been a free State, de facto et de jure!* The know nothings and republicans were fully advised of these matters, opposed admission, and *thus prevented the people of Kansas from making a free State constitution.* They did this, knowing all the while that under the federal constitution slavery was permissible in the territory."

So much for the official exposé of the Washington Union. Could supple knavery farther go than this mouth-piece of national democracy? It plainly gives the American people to understand that the president and his friends—its own owners—having been playing a game of double-faced deception. In the north, the president's special organ tells the restless fanatics that the freesoilers defeated the administration's Machiavelian scheme for driving slavery out of Kansas; while here, at the south, we are informed by the office-holders' organs that all those who opposed the president's plan for the admission of Kansas are "base traitors" to the south, and the opponents of slavery! We now, perhaps, have the true key to the proclamation made a few days ago by senator Hammond, a leading democrat of South Carolina, to his constituents, wherein he gravely informs them that, the Kansas bill "was a delusion and deception from the beginning"—that "it was a *snare to those at the south.* It was *rotten with fraud,* and those who made it flinched from its consequences. Its only effect was to add another free State to the Union." What a sad commentary this acknowledgement is on the moral conduct of our leading politicians.

The judge of the criminal court, at Chicago, in charging the grand jury for the September term, called their serious attention to a great evil and wrong, which prevails to an alarming extent throughout the Union, subverting justice and bidding fair to sap the foundation of society. The judge said, "During the past five years that I have held this court it has been my unpleasant duty to try and sentence to the state prison several hundred persons; and I am sorry to say that, while it is an easy matter to find jurors who are ready and willing to punish poor offenders, without money, friends or position, it is with great difficulty that jurors can be found who appreciate the fact that one bad man of position and wealth can do more harm than one hundred poor men can who are in the humble walks of life. By some miracle, juries but seldom, if ever, find verdicts against persons of wealth or influence." The evil is mainly owing to the fact, that in nearly all such cases the jurors, instead of promptly vindicating the outraged laws and satisfying the demands of justice, turn their entire attention to hunting up some excuse by which the prisoner may be cleared and turned loose on society.

It is reported that secretary Cass and lord Napier are about coming to a definite and satisfactory adjustment of the Central American difficulty.

The Washington Union continues to promulgate official denunciations against Douglas and the Douglas democracy. In one of its savage excommunications we have the following edict to southern democrats, which, as a matter of course, they are expected to heed:

"We would caution gentlemen at the south, especially, who, from the nature of things, cannot be acquainted with all the facts of the subject, that unless they are prepared to sustain a class of politicians who are sure to be in open coalition very soon with the most violent agitators of anti-slavery at the north, they had better beware of giving aid, comfort, or countenance, in the form of either apology, extenuation, or tolerance, to this disorganising and incendiary movement of Douglas democrats."

The foregoing is a specimen of that peculiar "harmony" which the organs never tire of declaring pervades the national democracy. The only real difference between Douglas and Lincoln, his opponent for the U. S. senate, is that Douglas is an unprincipled demagogue and as arrant a freesoiler as ever drew breath; while Lincoln is not only an ultra-black republican, but is strongly tinctured with abolitionism.—Douglas, as yet, has not proved quite so great a fanatic as Lincoln, and, for that reason, is claimed to be the least objectionable to the south. Too much of our present issue is occupied with the cross-fires of the Douglas and anti-Douglas democracy, but being the most absorbing topic on the political tapis, we wish to keep our readers posted regarding the progress of the civil war between the factions.

THE PROPOSED NEW STATE—MEETING UPON THE SUBJECT.—A meeting was held at Ontonagon on the 25th ult., says the Cincinnati Times, composed of delegates from the upper peninsula of Michigan and from those portions of Wisconsin and Minnesota bordering on lake Superior, for the purpose of considering the propriety of the formation of a territory out of the lake Superior region of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, preparatory to the formation of a new State. This meeting was called some time ago, and was attended by delegates from all the different sections enumerated in the call.

A committee of eight was appointed by the convention to draft an address to the legislatures of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, urging upon them the propriety and necessity of a grant to the general government of their territory bordering on lake Superior, for the purpose of enabling the inhabitants to form a new territory, and this committee was instructed to submit their proceedings to the convention, which is to meet again on the 11th inst., at Ontonagon, for the purpose of considering them. In addition to this, a committee of three was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the convention, and their report was made at an adjourned meeting on the 26th. The resolutions are devoted to a setting forth of the reasons urged in favor of the project, and with which the public are already familiar.

There is little or no doubt that this movement will succeed in a few years, and that a new freesoil State will thus be brought into the Union. We believe Wisconsin has already agreed to cede the portion of her territory asked for. What says the south to this move?

We learn by the Brandon (Miss.) Republican that Messrs. Wiley P. Harris and Steel & Norris, attorneys at law, have filed bills in the chancery court of Clark county, Mississippi, to stop sales of property under execution, based upon judgments rendered before judge Hancock, on the ground that all the judgments were void, because judge Hancock had been recently engaged in a duel. The laws of Mississippi are very stringent in regard to duelling, and make any one having been engaged in a duel, or carrying or accepting any challenge, disqualified from holding office. If judge Hancock comes under the ban, he should have had the delicacy to resign, for no man who knowingly sets any law at defiance is to fit to be a judge or occupy office of any kind.

A German paper gives the following statistics showing the great increase in the use of cotton in European factories within the past twenty-five years. The yearly average has been:

In the five years	1781-85,	lbs. weight	10,800,000
—	1785-91,	—	27,404,000
—	1801-05,	—	56,600,000
—	1811-15,	—	79,589,000
—	1821-25,	—	152,250,000
—	1831-35,	—	313,510,000
—	1841-45,	—	585,300,000
—	1851-55,	—	711,500,000
—	1856,	—	913,300,000

The consumption of raw cotton has increased in the last eighty years to the remarkable extent of three hundred fold, and even in the fifty years of the present century it has increased more than sixteen fold, and since the restoration of peace in Europe, in 1815, more than eleven fold. Who can predict what that increase will be from this date to 1958.

The Washington States says of the Oregon war debt, which amounts to over $5,000,000, "a combination of men, in high and low positions, composed of bankers, and it is said, senators and their abetters, are getting, or have already got, the control of this immense claim, and will attempt to force it through congress at the next session. These speculators, we understand, have had their agents at work in Oregon buying up the different claims against the government, based on the most extravagant rates, for a few cents on the dollar. The facts before us, we think, will enable us to show up this whole matter in its true colors, and expose one of the greatest attempts to deplete Uncle Sam's treasury which has ever been made."

We regret to perceive in the New Orleans papers the demise of Laurent J. Sigur, esq.—He died at Pass Christian, Miss., of consumption. Mr. Sigur was one of the original proprietors of the New Orleans Delta, and the master spirit of the ill-fated Lopez expedition against Cuba, in which visionary enterprise he spent a fortune and seriously embarrassed himself in a pecuniary sense. During the last congressional contest he was the nominee of the southern rights democrats of the third district, and his defeat was much regretted by many political opponents as well as friends. He was a high toned, chivalrous gentlemen, whose memory will long be cherished.

A writer in the New York Times states that a number of prominent democrats, among them Sickles, the member of congress, and Belmont, ex-U. S. minister to the Hague and nephew-in-law to John Slidell, gave Forney, of the Philadelphia Press, a complimentary dinner at Tarrytown, on the occasion of his speech denouncing president Buchanan and his administration, an extract from which will be found in another column. What's the wind?

New sugar and molasses have been received at New Orleans.

[For the South-Western.

Messrs. Editors—"Arrived at the quiet repose of my sylvan" cabin, I find time to drop you a line in reference to a remarkable article that appeared in the Caddo Gazette, of the 4th ult., signed H., which only came to my notice this week.

You see, it opened my eyes wonderfully on various points, whereon I had been painfully mystified. I was at that same camp meeting. I was unsophisticated enough to suppose that people went there with religious motives, and to hear the truths of the gospel. So, dressing my mind in becoming reverence, and my body with my accustomed plainness, I wended my way up to Zion's hill.

Arrived there, my bewildered vision scarce was conscious of what it saw. I was surrounded by a sea of flounces that threatened to engulph me at every flutter. A blaze of jewelry flashed before my astonished eyes; the hum of merry voices, and musical laughter, greeted my wondering ears. Laces floated from bare arms; feathers waved joyously; flowers joggled up and down in the general glee; miniature bonnets clung with drowning tenacity to pretty necks and grappled their nondescript adornments into silky hair. Gentlemen trailed in the wake of flounced pyramids as they sailed about, or huddled in groups under umbrellas, which seemed a tiresome business to me, when there were seats plenty in the "arbor" and no need of umbrellas. Pretty bipeds, with peach fuzz under their noses, lisped pretty words to pretty maids, who listened with pretty import, and blustering bullys stared at the ladies and criticised everybody.

But I saw still more that surprised me. I saw ladies dressing for breakfast, dressing for dinner, dressing for supper, and dressing for "preaching," with a commendable show of perseverance and industry, just as the ladies do in those novels which have furnished H. with so many elegant adjectives.

Well, I went to preaching too, and heard the venerable clergy of whom he speaks, and most heartily subscribe to anything said in eulogy of them.

But what opened my eyes more particularly, was that "portion" of H.'s "communication," wherein he takes it for granted "the Doctor's feelings" will be interested, and which he writes for the "benefit of all who did not see as he did." He went to "*see*" did he? Well, between you and me, don't you think that if he had "drank and feasted upon the rich profusion of God's choicest gift" as heralded from the pulpit, it would have been more *appropriate.* They stirred the deep "folds" of his heart, but if they had *stayed* "stirred," don't you reckon there would have been *more* "good done."

H. says he "never saw such good order and attention prevail," &c. His opinion may be as good as *any outsider's* could be. His peregrinations *around* the "arbor" fully qualified him to judge of *external* appearances. But I wonder if he *heard* the well merited and fearlessly applied reproof that came from "the stand" to those inattentive, non-interested saunterers, who were walking about, or lounging against the posts. Perhaps *they* came "to see," and will understand all about the "varied graces of an Empress;" those "clear blue eyes," and the "soul-speaking blue eyes," and those "soft blue eyes" that "stole so imperceptibly" into "the deep folds of" his "heart!"—the same "deep folds," that the preaching "stirred." Perhaps they can understand about those "long lashes that retire before the gaze of admiration."—Whither do they "retire?"

The scene changes from the azure day to darkness, and then we have "midnight eyes" where the "storm cloud sleeps." Is the lady high tempered? Then "piercing *black* eyes, flashing like lightning;"—to accompany the above mentioned storm, I suppose. There was a "brunette" there, and another, with "dark complexion"—I saw several of those. H. is evidently a high appreciator of female beauty, and has great faith in the potent power of flattery; but has forgotten that in angling for gold fish the bait should be so skilfully arranged as to hide the hook. He says it would take till "leap year" to enumerate all he saw with his wonderful powers of vision. Does that year suggest itself to him, as having any bearing upon his fate?

But, he thinks, he has "said enough" (!!) to make somebody "regret" that they "didn't go"—to "see" the girls. Of course, no one will regret that they didn't hear the sermons. H. evidently considers a camp ground on a par with a convivial party, himself a penny-a-line newspaper reporter, and counts off the ladies at so much a head. They feel the honor, no doubt—they've "got their names in print." From all of which, I've learned that a camp meeting is considered by *some* ladies as a fine place to *dress,* and by *some* gentlemen, as the place to "see" the ladies; which is the point of difference between H. and I.

THE EXPENSES.—Every negro of the captured Africans is bound to cost Uncle Sam all he is worth, if he were sold to pay expenses. First, there is lieutenant Maffit, with the United States brig Dolphin, cruising round in the gulf at considerable expense. Then there is the $25 a head that the captors have a right to claim from the public treasury. Then there is the cost of their keep until their case is acted upon by a competent tribunal. This will be no small item, for those that are sick must be doctored, and those that are well must be fed, and those that are naked must have some sort of clothing. Then there are the costs of the legal proceedings. Then the cost of carrying the poor devils back in the most expensive national vessel afloat. Then it seems that the Colonization society will kindly take charge of them in Liberia one year for the modest sum of fifty thousand dollars. The cost of these Africans will be about four hundred dollars a head to the United States. That kind of philanthropy won't pay. The Colonization society is liberal. It won't have to keep much more than two hundred and fifty negroes, for we question if more than that number ever reach Africa alive. Two hundred dollars a head for a year's keeping of Africans in Africa is some. Uncle Sam has to pay roundly, and all round.

This Colonization society we have always looked upon as a humbug. It don't amount to anything, and it costs a great deal in money and a great deal more in hypocrisy. As for the removing the colored population of the United States to Africa, that is wholly impossible. A good many people scattered around throughout the southern States hold on with a grip of steel to every dollar's worth they can get in any way, but leave a clause in their will sending their servants to Liberia, and perhaps making the Colonization society their heirs, to the injury of the State, of the immediate community, of their natural heirs, and of their negroes themselves. Our next legislature can correct this abuse, so far as North Carolina is concerned, by modifying the law upon the subject of devises. It ought to do it.

[Wilmington Journal.

ASTOUNDING.—The hon. A. R. Wright, member to congress from this State, (Georgia,) has written a letter in glorification of Douglas, which contains the following intelligence:

"Mr. Douglas is *almost the only very prominent democrat* north that never faltered."

Now, this is a precious confession of the disreputable fraud that democratic leaders have been playing off for years upon the people of the south. If Douglas, who the democratic president and all the leading democratic organs maintain is steeped in treachery, is the best of all very prominent democrats at the north, what is to become of the south should she longer put her trust in such a party? [Savannah Rep.

All the lawyers, physicians, merchants, and traveling dealers in the parish of St. John the Baptist, have been cited to appear before the district court, on the charge of not having paid license for 1858, for which they are subject to a fine. Brisk times for officers, informers and collectors.

HOW PENNSYLVANIA WAS CARRIED.—Forney very frankly tells how Pennsylvania was carried for Buchanan. It was carried by a fraud, and this fraud was participated in by southern democrats—by Cobb, Floyd, Scott, and many others. But let Forney tell the history himself. He says:

"We went into the canvass. It fell to my lot to be at the head of the State democratic committee of Pennsylvania. All my affections were and are in that State; all the emotions of my nature, physical and mental, were enlisted on the side of the candidate she had presented. His whole career, his character, my personal attachment, and the sincere devotion I felt for him, his family, his cause, and all about him, made me so anxious for him to succeed, that I indulge in no vain expression of speech when I say to you that I would have forfeited my life for him. My devotion for him knew no bounds. Day and night, night and day, I toiled in that campaign. And there are those here to-day from my own State who will bear witness to the fact, when I say that all my own resources, all my fortune, every exertion, every aid that could be enlisted was evoked to produce the final result. Above all other questions in that campaign was the great principle of popular (squatter) sovereignty. That was the standard which always marshaled the way. That was the shibboleth—that was the war cry. From lake Erie to the Delaware—from Pittsburg to Philadelphia—in every village and town in the State—every where that I could induce a pen to write, or a tongue to speak, that was theme upon which those pens wrote, and those tongues spoke. Why, gentlemen, Mr. Buchanan had no confidants upon this subject. He was public, he was open, he was unreserved in his declarations to every body. He sent to the traduced John Hickman in an adjoining county. He told him, through his friends and agents: 'You, Mr. Hickman, occupy a peculiar relation; you voted for the Topeka constitution; you denounced the Kansas-Nebraska bill; you, too, were opposed to the repeal of the Missouri compromise line; the democratic party of your district have nominated you; the republicans like you; they believe in you. Now, I want you to take the stump and go before your people, and pledge me, James Buchanan, that I intend standing by, and, if necessary, dying by, this principle of popular sovereignty.' For myself, if I could descend to the baseness of publishing private letters, I might fill a volume with similar pledges from high authority.—Why, gentlemen, when the distinguished secretary of the treasury, Mr. Cobb, who, from having been a superfine union man, has been converted into a fire-eater, equal to Mr. Chaubert himself—when Mr. Cobb came into Pennsylvania, and traversed our State from end to end, and from county to county, talking to delighted audiences all the time, what was the burden of his theme? Why, popular sovereignty. He said, in substance: 'I would take the army and navy, I would use every power of the federal government, I would surround the territory, but what the people of Kansas should vote, and by their vote the destinies of the future State should be decided.'

"Whenever a southern orator came into Pennsylvania and called upon me, I said to him:—'Now, sir, I have but one thing to say to you; we have but a single thing before the people; every day is making the campaign more and more doubtful; every day is making the popular feeling more and more intense; Mr. Buchanan himself feels that every thing depends upon the prudence, the sagacity and the spirit of conciliation by which this campaign is conducted; and for God's sake take care what you say about Kansas; leave your violent southern feelings at home; you must not come to threaten; you, governor Johnson, and you too, Mr. Scott, of Richmond, and you, Mr. Extra Billy Smith, and you Mr. secretary Floyd, all of you, must remember that if you lose this battle here, you lose it altogether; it will be your loss, and therefore you must allow us to manage it in our own way.' And they did accede to that policy without any protestation, and gladly. There was no deception in that fight, at least so far as I was concerned. I sowed the State with private letters and private pledges upon this question. There is not a county in Pennsylvania in which my letters may not be found, pledging Mr. Buchanan, in his name, and by his authority, to the full, complete and practical recognition of the rights of the anti-slavery people of Kansas to decide upon their own affairs.

The Washington Union having asked for a "general expression of southern opinion," in favor or against Douglas, as regards the issue of the pending Illinois canvas, the Louisiana Courier expresses itself in this wise:

"We join the Union in the hope that the southern press generally will freely give its opinion on the Douglas controversy, and say whether they prefer Douglas to Lincoln. The Union says it does not. We and other southern papers say we do—emphatically do. We hope the southern press will speak out freely and fully."

The Courier closes its remarks in the following significant words:

"We rather fancy that the cat which the Union had been concealing so cunningly, is let out of the bag in the paragraph about the Charleston convention. There is a prevailing fear in this part of the country that the Union is not now representing the interest of the administration, but is devoted to the personal interests of some people who are scheming for their own private advantage, and who are trying to destroy Mr. Douglas for their own private purposes, regardless of the interests of the democratic party. Many people have a belief that the war on Douglas in the Union, is a personal and private war, and looks to the personal advantage of some particular self-proposed candidate who intends to come before the Charleston convention. Therefore, among the other reasons, they are mortified and outraged at the course of the Union, and therefore they are more and more strengthened in their disposition to adhere to their reliance on State organizations, regardless of opinions at Washington, and to distrust more and more all centralising influences whatever. We barely hint to the Union that "national democracy," in its sense of the term, is not popular with democrats here. They are strict State rights men."

WHY SO NERVOUS?—The so-called democracy are just now in a very critical condition.—The bolting of Douglas on the Kansas question and the rejection by Kansas of the English conference bill, has somewhat unsettled their programme, and the acknowledged dissension in their ranks consequent thereupon, fill them with ill-concealed dismay. With wars without and dissensions within, growing out of wide differences of opinion and an almost unheard of extravagance of expenditure in the administration of the government, the so-called democratic leaders and organs are watching the movements in the political world with a most nervous anxiety. They see ghosts and scarecrows in every movement, and exhibit all the trepidation of a convicted criminal about to receive his merited sentence. It would not be surprising, from present indications, if in the midst of their fright, the democratic organs at the south turn about and swear roundly that Douglas is the prosopopœia of national democracy, and that the administration and its adherents are guilty of "treason" to "principles" by opposing him. Atlanta (Ga.) Am.

The Newark (New Jersey) Machine Co., have just completed a sectional dry dock on the island of San Lorenzo, off the coast of Peru, for which they received $250,000. The dock is capable of holding the largest class of vessels, and has power to sustain a weight of 20,000 tons. One million five hundred feet of oak and yellow pine lumber and 200 tons of iron were employed in building the dock.

The yellow fever is increasing in Mobile.

ARISTOCRACY OF DEMAGOGUES.—Every country has its aristocracy with more or less political influence. England has a landed aristocracy which has ruled hitherto through the two houses of parliament. France is governed mainly by a military aristocracy, although the imperial power appears to be supreme. Even Russia in her nobility has frequently found a power paramount to that of the czar. We have also an aristocracy which controls all political movements. We must not look for it in the gifted. It is not one of talent, or wealth, or family. It is to be sought in those who unite a certain share of popular declamation with the arts of political combination.

The men who guide the machinery of caucuses constitute our aristocracy. It is the aristocracy of demagoguism. It is as potential as any other on the face of the habitable globe. All power is concentrated in its hands. Whatever may be the constitutional distribution of authority; however nice may be the adjustments and balances under our organization, federal and state, the power behind all these is found in the clique of politicians who prepare the measures as well as nominate the candidates who are to carry them into effect.

The people appear to exercise their will voluntarily in the selection of their agents. This is a delusion. The act of casting their votes is only one of empty form. By preärrangement every thing has been done which deprives the voter of intellectual liberty. His thinking has been done for him by the demagogues in caucus. Political power with us is thus in the hands of a comparatively limited number. This constitutes them an aristocracy, the oligarchs of the American republic, as much as the Venitian senate was the sole source of authority in that republic. It is the concentration of all political power in the hands of those who rule in the secret conclave—who frame the resolutions hiding the covert purpose under pompous common-places, and who move the machinery by which the whole is consummated under the appearance of popular sanction. This is our aristocracy, in whom all substantial political power resides. It has become so much the habitude of the country that it has become ingrained in our system. It is striking its roots deeper every day into our political soil. And until the people will rise in the might and majesty of their power, throwing off this tyranny of the few over the many, the American people will be under the influence of cliques and caucuses which consign them to political bondage.

The conclusion from this view is that the theoretical plan of our government is something quite different from its practical action. Our system presupposes, as the foundation of the agency for making the laws, the free and independent movement of the people. This is the fundamental idea involved in what is called popular sovereignty; but, instead of this republican maxim, the action of the masses is only secondary. The actual operation is in broad contrast with the theoretic scheme of our political institutions. It is not the people in whom resides the sovereignty, but the ambitious and intriguing few who make it appear that they are the organs instead of the possessors of the sovereign power. In one word, we are under the dominion of an aristocracy of low demagogues. [Charleston News.

A COUNTERMARCH.—A gentleman, who was lately in conversation with hon. A. H. Stephens, at Crawfordville, informs us that Mr. Stephens admits to have said in "substance" what the Cincinnati Commercial reports him as saying, to-wit: that he "was in favor of the reelection to the senate of judge Douglas, and that he regarded the war by the president upon the anti-Lecompton men of Illinois as *wickedly foolish.*" This gentleman also informs us that he has heard Mr. Toombs express *his* sympathy for Douglas. Now then, gentlemen grinders of southern official organs of democracy, what are going to do—especially those of you who strove to outstrip each other in violently denouncing Douglas as a "vile traitor to the south and to democracy," and, while expressing a doubt of Mr. Stephens having used the language imputed to him, declared that, if he *did* do so, "*he is no better than Douglas?*" Are you going to countermarch—take the back track—and swear that Douglas, Stephens and Toombs are right after all; that Douglas is the *only true* democrat; that you misunderstood his position; that he is the same "patriotic friend to the south" you used to boast him; that he is a very proper man—a veritable "Little Giant of Democracy"—who has been badly treated by this "wickedly foolish" administration? Are you going to do this at the behest of Stephens and Toombs? are you going to stand to this combination (according to your own declarations) of northern and southern "traitors?"—We know that it is a hard thing to confess one's lack of confidence in his party leaders; but you must recollect, gentlemen, that the alternative before you is: to back out from your own position in respect to Kansas and Douglas, or repudiate that of Toombs and Stephens. If you do the former, the people will certainly and properly lose confidence in *you,* whether they repose it in your leaders or not. We trust that the democratic press of Georgia will have manliness enough to assert their independence of the dictation of Toombs and Stephens, and to battle to the bitter end against all who would screen or defend the "traitor" Douglas from the just indignation of "a deceived and outraged southern people." If they have not, they should wear conspiciously about their persons a badge of their servitude. Even the sophistry of an official organ of democracy cannot gainsay the self-evident fact that, if Douglas is "a traitor to the south," which no one dare deny, so are those southern organs of democracy who are now sympathizing with and defending Douglas also "traitors to the south"—unprincipled politicians, who stand ever willing and prepared to sacrifice country and principles to what they style "expediency:" [Ind. South.

A correspondent of the Boston Courier estimates that the abolition of the franking privilege would lead, directly and indirectly, to a saving of five millions of dollars. Enormous as this estimate may seem, we are not certain that it is extravagant. The documents that are franked all over the country, would not be printed if they could not be sent free. Enormous editions are printed that nobody would buy, and that hardly anybody would pay the postage on. Of course there are some valuable works published with all this rubbish. It is probable that full a tenth part of the public documents may be worth the paper that they are printed on; but generally all that is worth publishing in any considerable edition, would find its way to the public through the newspapers, and does now long before it comes in the official documents. These documents should be edited. The superfluous matter, almost always more than half, should be omitted, and only that which is new and valuable and worthy of preservation, should be published in large editions. What can be more absurd than to print twenty thousand copies of a document made up chiefly of meteorological or astronomical observations, and to burden the correspondence of the country with the expense of transporting them to people who never cut the leaves!

Undoubtedly, the first step towards the reformation of this great abuse, is the abolition of the franking privilege. We believe there is no franking privilege in England. We certainly ought not to retain privileges that are abandoned even there. The rates of postage are so low that there is no longer an excuse for the gratuity, and one would suppose, that the relief to the members of congress would be so great that they would gladly take advantage of the reasons that oppose the practice.

Ten thousand nine hundred and seventy-three bales new cotton arrived at New Orleans on the 20th inst. The heavy receipts tend to keep prices down.

General Intelligence.

QUEBEC, Sept. 21st.—A steamer of the Canadian line has arrived from Liverpool with dates to the 8th inst. The political news is unimportant.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 7th.—The cotton market closed with an advancing tendency. All qualities had advanced 1-16d.

TRINITY BAY, Sept. 21st.—There is a cessation of signals from Valencia, and it is feared that the interruption may prove a permanent one to the ocean telegraph.

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—A. J. Parker has been nominated for governor by the State democratic convention—all the other candidates withdrawing.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—The steamship Black Warrior has arrived at this port with dates from Havana of the 15th instant. Advices from St. Domingo had been received, stating that Santa Ana (negro) had attacked and taken Santiago fort. The fort was taken on the 1st of September; upon which, Valverde and the collector of Santiago fled to Monte Christo, abandoning the government of St. Domingo. All business is suspended, and the stores in the city are closed, All paper money is repudiated as worthless.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—Atlantic Telegraph shares have greatly declined, owing to the reported cessation of signals from Valencia.

General William Walker, with colonel Von Notzmer, left here in the Star of the West, intending to stop at Panama, it is said, to mature plans for another foray on Nicaragua. It is reported that he has been preceded by a considerable number of men and arms, and a supply of ammunition, &c., in the steamer Hermann, from Boston.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 15th.—The customhouse in this city accidentally took fire to-day. The damage is estimated at $40,000.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—It is understood here that Denver has resigned the governorship of Kansas, and that in all probability he will resume the commissionership of Indian affairs.

It seems to be a certainty that senator Benjamin declines the mission to Spain.

Mr. Forsyth, our minister to Mexico, is at Tacubaya, and will return to Washington in October.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—The Pacific military department has been divided and organised as follows: The southern division is called the department of California, and is placed under the command of general Clark. The head quarters of the department are to be at San Francisco. The northern division is called the department of Oregon, with its headquarters at fort Vancouver, and to be under the command of general Harney.

The receipts of the United States treasury during the past week amounted to $800,000. The amount on deposit is $13,460,000, whereof $9,[illegible]1,000 is at New York.

CHARLESTON, Sept. 21.—The steam frigate Niagara, with the captured Africans on board, sailed last night for Africa.

MEMPHIS, Sept. 16.—The first overland mail for California, via fort Smith, left here this morning.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 16.—The first overland mail for California left here this morning.

The Salt Lake mail, with advices to the 21st ult., has arrived at St. Josephs.

Brigham Young keeps concealed, fearing the vengeance of the mormons on account of the numerous frauds which are charged against him.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., Sept. 15.—Captain McLean, of the United States army, reached Santa Fé on the 20th ult., with the report that a battle had, without doubt, taken place between major Brooks' command and the Narvajos. The latter had offered major B. several thousand sheep and a thousand poneys as indemnification for the loss of his negro.

LEAVENWORTH, Sept. 15th.—The Pike's peak gold excitement has increased to a perfect mania, and large numbers are constantly setting out for the new el dorado. A stage line is being organised thence from fort Riley.

A dreadful explosion of powder has occurred at Astrakhan, on the Caspian sea. The city was almost entirely destroyed. Great numbers of people were killed. Astrakhan is described by McCulloch as a city of Russia, capital of the extensive government of that name. The city is situated on a small island in the Wolga, about thirty miles from its embouchure in the Caspian sea. It consists of three parts, viz: the citadel, city proper, and suburbs. The houses in the suburbs, where the bulk of the population reside, are of wood; whereas in the other two divisions they are of stone. It possesses several manufacturing establishments; is the centre of the fisheries carried on in the Wolga and Caspian, and, moreover, is the grand fishing mart for all the interior of the empire. It is also the great entrepot of the trade with Persia and the countries to the east of the Caspian.

"Bell's Life in London" is enthusiastic for Morphy, the American chess player. It says:—"Since the arrival of Mr. Morphy, the young American Philidor, in England, he has played constantly with all who have dared to present themselves, and his career so far has been one of unmixed triumph." Philidor was about to run over to Paris to play Harrwitz, and from thence to Germany to encounter Anderson.

VICKSBURG.—The Whig of the 18th instant, says there have been several new cases and three or four deaths by yellow fever since the last report.

The yellow fever has made its appearance in Plaquemine, Iberville parish. The Plaquemine Gazette of the 18th instant says, there are now at this time, we learn, about twelve cases in town, all in one particular section—embraced between Geraud street, the bayou levee and the river.

The Savannah News of the 16th instant says, it becomes our painful duty to announce that since last Wednesday, some four or five deaths by yellow fever have been reported by our city physicians.—These cases have occurred in the suburbs of the city and are considered spasmodic, without any of the characteristics of malignant epidemic disease.

The Galveston papers announce the death of two distinguished Texas citizens, colonel Samuel M. Williams, who died on the 13th inst., was the oldest remaining citizen of Texas who had passed through her colonial, republican, and State history. The most marked testimonials of respect were paid to his memory on the day of his obsequies. The other deceased citizen, respected while living, and lamented as dead, is governor Wood, who commanded a regiment in the Mexican war, and was subsequently governor of the State.

The News of the 16th says, we regret to be compelled to state that the sickness of our city seems to have increased during the past day or two, owing doubtless, to the change of weather, which has been very much warmer.

There is a great scarcity of provisions in the town of Houston.

The San Antonio Herald announces the arrival in that city on the 2d inst., of the train of the Arizona mining company, consisting of twenty men, ten loaded wagons and sixty mules. This is but the nucleus of the train, which when completed will embrace some ninety mules, thirty horses, fifteen teamsters, a wagon master, a professor of geology and mineralogy, editor with his printing office, a newspaper correspondent, one manager, one assistant manager, and ten mechanics.

Under the head of "Strange disappearance," an Illinois paper publishes the following:—"On Saturday evening, 22d ult., S. Bostwick, of the firm of Bostwick & Bullens, of Pana, Christian county, in this State, at the junction of the Central and Terre Haute railroad, disappeared. No tidings of his whereabouts have since been received from his numerous friends." S. Bostwick, it will be remembered, is the name of the enterprising young man who recently published his own death notice in the New Orleans papers, and sailed for Texas the very next morning.

We clip the following extract from the Courier and Enquirer, a paper as well posted in statistics as any in the country: "One of the gratifying features of the commercial world is the renewed and steady demand for cotton—a demand that increases in a much greater ratio than the increase of population. The European demand and prices are such as to furnish an ample guarantee of remuneration to all our southern planters for a few years to come. With all the available sources of supply from Egypt, Asia, Australia and South America, the cotton of the U. States is not enough to meet the growing demand in Europe.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says, that it is stated in anti-Lecompton circles that Mr. Green, of Missouri, contemplates taking a hand in favor of Douglas, in the exciting campaign existing in Illinois. It is not at all unlikely that governor Walker will, in person, aid the movement in Illinois. Governor Wise may.

The Port Gibson Reveille of the latest date, says: "Our board of selectmen are determined to enforce the quarantine rigidly. Yesterday two young men arrived in town from New Orleans and were permitted to remain a few hours, but when again notified to leave, they grew somewhat obstinate, and the police officer received instructions to summon a posse to escort them beyond the corporate limits.

The Zanesville (Ohio) Courier states that a few days ago, there was a large gathering in that city of democrats opposed to the election of colonel Manypenny, the regular democratic nominee for congressman in the 16th district. The crowd assembled in front of the court-house, and was addressed by doctor Drake and S. Chapman. The former gentleman stated that there was no sound democratic candidate in the field for whom administration men could vote, and moved that Jonathan Swank be nominated. The motion was adopted unanimously, and the result was received with loud cheering.

The Washington Union adds to its other journalistic qualifications that of being remarkably well informed. In its issue of the 11th inst., the Union has a long article assuming that a coalition had been effected in New York between the black republicans and Americans, and denouncing it in terms of withering severity. Every paper south of New York, save the Union, knew on the 10th that the attempt at fusion had proved a failure. The Union is so admirably posted up in politics that it actually knows what never took place.

At last accounts the New Yorkers were greatly disquieted in consequence of the sub-marine cable having shown no sign of vitality since the 1st. Neither Mr. Field nor the electricians could account satisfactorily for the phenomenon, and fears were entertained that the continuity of the current had somehow been broken in the depths of the sea.

The democratic State convention of Michigan has nominated [illegible] Stuart, a decided and unflinching Douglas man, for governor, despite the active opposition of the friends of the administration.

The population of Arkansas, as given by the State census, is 318,313, of whom [illegible] are slaves.